GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1112
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2005
PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS IN ASSAM
Sarma Dr. Arun Kumar

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government undertook purchase of rice and other agricultural commodities in Assam during the last three years and thereafter;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the quantity and price of each commodity during the said period, commodity-wise;

(c) the targets of procurement fixed for the current year alongwith achievements made therein;

(d) the agency deployed for making the aforesaid procurement; and

(e) the constraints faced by the said agency in the procurement process?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): Yes, Sir. The Government undertook purchase of rice in Assam during the last three years and thereafter.

(b): Details of paddy/rice procured during the last three years is as under:-

Year	Procurement(In MTs) Paddy	price (Rs. per quintal)	Levy raw rice price (Rs. per quintal)	
	Paddy	Levy rice	Common Grade `A`	Common Grade `A`
2002-03	91	530.00	560.00	914.30 960.90
2003-04	17048	550.00	580.00	942.40 989.00
2004-05	46	560.00	590.00	942.40 989.00

(c): Procurement operations is an open ended scheme and as such no targets are fixed. However, during the current Kharif Marketing Season 2004-05, 46 MT of paddy has been procured so far.

(d): Food Corporation of India (FCI) is the agency deployed for making the aforesaid procurement.

(e): The following constraints are being faced by FCI in procurement process:

(i) No regulated market in the State of Assam;

(ii) Limited marketable surplus.

(iii) Lack of participation by the State Agencies.